



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 384

January Session, 2015

House Bill No. 6930

House of Representatives, April 1, 2015

The Committee on Labor and Public Employees reported through REP. TERCYAK of the 26th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 7-339b of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

3 (a) Any public agency of this state may participate in developing
4 and implementing interlocal agreements with any public agency or
5 agencies of this state or any other state or states providing for any of
6 the following:

7 (1) The joint performance of any function that each participating
8 public agency may perform separately under any provision of the
9 general statutes or of any special act, charter or home rule ordinance.

10 (2) The establishment of an interlocal advisory board or boards to
11 recommend programs and policies for cooperative or uniform action in
12 any fields of activity permitted or authorized hereunder for each
13 participating public agency, and from time to time to advise with the

14 appropriate officials of the participating public agencies in respect to
15 such programs, policies or fields of activity.

16 (3) The establishment of an interlocal advisory board or boards that
17 shall have the power to engage in collective bargaining with duly
18 appointed representatives of an employee labor organization
19 consisting of interlocal employees and may enter into labor contracts
20 concerning wages, salaries, hours, sick leave, working conditions,
21 collective bargaining and pension or retirement provisions.

22 [(3)] (4) The establishment and maintenance of interlocal employees
23 or officers of the participating public agencies for the purpose of
24 administering or assisting in any of the undertakings contemplated by
25 subdivision (1) of this subsection or for the purpose of performing
26 services for an interlocal advisory board as authorized by subdivision
27 (2) of this subsection. Such employees or officers, if not continuing in
28 or eligible for the merit system, insurance and pension benefits and
29 status of employment with a participating public agency, may
30 continue in such status or be made eligible therefor if the interlocal
31 agreement contains appropriate provisions to this effect. An interlocal
32 advisory board may enter into an agreement with the federal Secretary
33 of Health and Human Services to provide Old Age and Survivors
34 Insurance coverage to employees of such board.

35 (b) Nothing contained in sections 7-339a to 7-339l, inclusive, shall be
36 construed to authorize or permit any public agency of this state to
37 receive, obtain, furnish or provide services, facilities, personnel,
38 equipment or any other property or resources, or to engage in or
39 perform any function or activity by means of an interlocal agreement,
40 if it does not have constitutional or statutory power or authorization to
41 receive, obtain, furnish or provide the same or substantially similar
42 services, facilities, personnel, equipment, other property or resources,
43 or to engage in or perform the same or a substantially similar function
44 or activity on its own account.

45 Sec. 2. Section 4-124s of the general statutes is repealed and the
46 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

47 (a) For purposes of this section:

48 (1) "Regional council of governments" means any such council
49 organized under the provisions of sections 4-124i to 4-124p, inclusive;

50 (2) "Municipality" means a town, city or consolidated town and
51 borough;

52 (3) "Legislative body" means the board of selectmen, town council,
53 city council, board of alderman, board of directors, board of
54 representatives or board of the warden and burgesses of a
55 municipality; and

56 (4) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
57 Management or the designee of the secretary.

58 (b) There is established a regional performance incentive program
59 that shall be administered by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
60 Management. On or before December 31, 2011, and annually
61 thereafter, any regional council of governments, any two or more
62 municipalities acting through a regional council of governments, any
63 economic development district or any combination thereof may submit
64 a proposal to the secretary for: (1) The joint provision of any service
65 that one or more participating municipalities of such council or agency
66 currently provide but which is not provided on a regional basis, (2) a
67 planning study regarding the joint provision of any service on a
68 regional basis, or (3) shared information technology services. A copy of
69 said proposal shall be sent to the legislators representing said
70 participating municipalities.

71 (c) (1) A regional council of governments or an economic
72 development district shall submit each proposal in the form and
73 manner the secretary prescribes and shall, at a minimum, provide the
74 following information for each proposal: (A) Service description; (B)
75 the explanation of the need for such service; (C) the method of
76 delivering such service on a regional basis; (D) the organization that
77 would be responsible for regional service delivery; (E) a description of

78 the population that would be served; (F) the manner in which regional
79 service delivery will achieve economies of scale; (G) the amount by
80 which participating municipalities will reduce their mill rates as a
81 result of savings realized; (H) a cost benefit analysis for the provision
82 of the service by each participating municipality and by the entity
83 submitting the proposal; (I) a plan of implementation for delivery of
84 the service on a regional basis; (J) a resolution endorsing such proposal
85 approved by the legislative body of each participating municipality;
86 and (K) an explanation of the potential legal obstacles, if any, to the
87 regional provision of the service.

88 (2) The secretary shall review each proposal and shall award grants
89 for proposals the secretary determines best meet the requirements of
90 this section. In awarding such grants, the secretary shall give priority
91 to a proposal submitted by (A) any entity specified in subsection (a) of
92 this section that includes participation of all of the member
93 municipalities of such entity, and which may increase the purchasing
94 power of participating municipalities or provide a cost savings
95 initiative resulting in a decrease in expenses of such municipalities,
96 allowing such municipalities to lower property taxes, and (B) any
97 economic development district.

98 (d) On or before December 31, 2013, and annually thereafter, in
99 addition to any proposal submitted pursuant to this section, any
100 municipality or regional council of governments may apply to the
101 secretary for a grant to fund: (1) Operating costs associated with
102 connecting to the state-wide high speed, flexible network developed
103 pursuant to section 4d-80, including the costs to connect at the same
104 rate as other government entities served by such network; and (2)
105 capital cost associated with connecting to such network, including
106 expenses associated with building out the internal fiber network
107 connections required to connect to such network, provided the
108 secretary shall make any such grant available in accordance with the
109 two-year schedule by which the Bureau of Enterprise Systems and
110 Technology recommends connecting each municipality and regional
111 council of governments to such network. Any municipality or regional

112 council of governments shall submit each application in the form and
 113 manner the secretary prescribes.

114 (e) On or before December 31, 2015, and annually thereafter, any
 115 interlocal advisory board, established pursuant to section 7-339b, as
 116 amended by this act, may submit a proposal to the secretary, in the
 117 form and manner the secretary prescribes pursuant to subsection (c) of
 118 this section, for a grant to fund any costs associated with establishing a
 119 collective bargaining system to enable such interlocal advisory board
 120 to bargain with duly appointed representatives of an employee labor
 121 organization consisting of interlocal employees and enter into labor
 122 contracts concerning wages, salaries, hours, sick leave, working
 123 conditions, collective bargaining and pension or retirement provisions.

124 [(e)] (f) The secretary shall submit to the Governor and the joint
 125 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 126 matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding a report on the grants
 127 provided pursuant to this section. Each such report shall include
 128 information on the amount of each grant, and the potential of each
 129 grant for leveraging other public and private investments. The
 130 secretary shall submit a report for the fiscal year commencing July 1,
 131 2011, not later than February 1, 2012, and shall submit a report for each
 132 subsequent fiscal year not later than the first day of March in such
 133 fiscal year. Such reports shall include the property tax reductions
 134 achieved by means of the program established pursuant to this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2015	7-339b
Sec. 2	October 1, 2015	4-124s

LAB *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
Policy & Mgmt., Off.	GF - Cost	Potential	Potential

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
Various Municipalities	Savings	Potential	Potential

Explanation

The bill allows municipalities to establish regional collective bargaining interlocal advisory boards. It also allows those boards to apply for grant funding from the Regional Performance Incentive Account (RPIA), a nonlapsing General Fund account administered by the Office of Policy and Management (OPM).

There is a potential cost to OPM associated with providing grants to interlocal advisory boards that administer regional collective bargaining. This cost varies based on the number of grants awarded from the account, and the amount of those awards.

It is anticipated that a municipality would only choose to join such a board if it anticipated a savings as a result of regional collective bargaining. Such savings would depend on the changes that occurred to collectively bargained municipal employee contracts.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to changes in collectively bargained

contracts administered by interlocal advisory boards.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6930*****AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill authorizes advisory boards, under the interlocal agreements law, to collectively bargain with unions representing interlocal employees and to enter into contracts with the unions (giving an advisory board these powers goes beyond what is normally considered advisory). It also permits such interlocal boards to apply to the state for grants to assist in the costs of establishing a collective bargaining system.

By law, under an interlocal agreement two or more towns can jointly perform any function that each participating town could perform separately under the general statutes, a special act, or a charter or home rule ordinance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2015

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 6 Nay 4 (03/12/2015)